

**REMARKS**

At the time of the Office Action dated February 7, 2007, claims 1-20 were pending in this application. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 5-16, 19, and 20. Claims 1, 3, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshihara et al. in view of Ikeda, and claims 2, 4, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshihara et al. in view of Ikeda and further in view of Lewis.

In this Amendment, claims 1-4, 17, and 18 have been canceled. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Due to the cancellation of claims 1-4, 17, and 18, the rejection of these claims have been rendered moot. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is respectfully solicited.

Claims 5-16, 19, and 20, all of which stand allowed, are now active in this application. Accordingly, the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

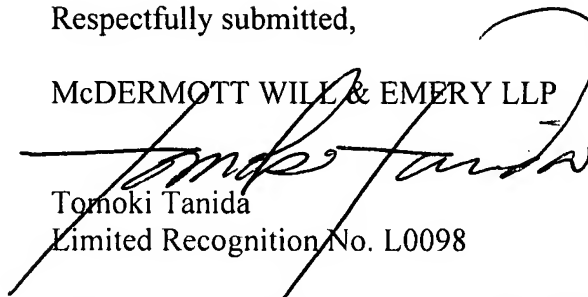
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

**Application No.: 10/772,279**

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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